



## STATE OF WASHINGTON GAMBLING COMMISSION

*"Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest"*

### **Media Release**

March 1, 2007

### **Summary of the Proposed Amendment - Appendix X2 To Washington Tribal-State Gaming Compacts**

The State of Washington and 27 Washington State Indian Tribes have reached a tentative agreement to amend their Tribal-State Gaming Compacts. The proposed amendment, Appendix X2, has been forwarded to the Legislature and the Washington State Gambling Commission. Following is a brief summary of the proposed changes.

#### **Highlights of the Agreement**

- Commits the Tribes to provide ongoing funding to reduce problem gambling and support smoking cessation
- Continues the Tribes' commitment to invest in the health and welfare of the community
- Honors agreements to allow limited growth in the number of player terminals
- Continues to limit the number of locations and facilities
- Strengthens regulatory specifications
- Supports continued revenue sharing between Tribes
- Limits the opportunity for increases in gambling activities by requiring all Tribes to approve the amendment

#### **Tribal Lottery System - Machine Gaming**

- Currently, each Tribe is authorized 675 player terminals (gaming machines), for a statewide total of 18,225. This maximum would increase to 975 player terminals for each Tribe, for a statewide total of 27,300.
- Currently, the Muckleshoot, Tulalip, and Puyallup Tribes can lease or purchase the rights to operate a maximum of 3,000 player terminals. This maximum would increase to 3,500 player terminals for each of those Tribes. After three years, the maximum would increase to 4,000.
- The total number of player terminals allowed at a single facility would be limited to not more 2,500. The current limit is 2,000.
- Tribes could offer up to \$20 wagers at 15% of player terminals. The current limit is \$5.
- Tribes could offer player terminals that initiate game play through the insertion of U.S. coins or currency and/or by a single press on the screen or a button.
- Tribes could determine their own hours of operation.
- There would be a moratorium on amendments relating to player terminals that would continue through June 30, 2009.

### **Problem Gambling Contribution**

Each gaming Tribe would contribute 0.13% of the net win from all Class III gaming activities to government or non-profit organizations that help reduce problem gambling.

### **Smoking Cessation Contribution**

Each gaming Tribe would contribute 0.13% of the net win from all Tribal Lottery System machine gaming to governmental or non-profit organizations that help discourage the use of tobacco. If a Tribe operates any of its gaming facilities as entirely smoke-free, the Tribe's obligation will be proportionally reduced, based on the number of player terminals in the non-smoking facility. Alternatively, if a Tribe chooses to prohibit the use of alcohol in all of its gaming facilities, it is excused from making the smoking cessation contribution.

### **Community Investments & Contributions Benefit Tribal & Non-Tribal Members**

Each Tribe would continue to invest in the health and welfare of the community by providing for programs that benefit everyone, such as law enforcement and governmental services, health care, job training, and public works. Tribes may distribute Community Investments and Contributions directly to jurisdictions or qualifying programs, and will provide a report of Community Investments and Contributions made each year.

### **The Process from Here**

1. Formal notification about the proposed Compact amendments are conveyed to the Governor, Legislature, Local Government Officials, and others.
2. The Legislature to hold a public hearing within 45 days after receiving the proposed Compact amendment.
3. The Gambling Commission will hold a public hearing on Friday, March 9, 2007, and within 60 days decide whether to forward the proposed Compact amendments to the Governor. The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. and be held at the Red Lion Hotel, 2300 Evergreen Park Drive, Olympia, Washington 98502, phone number: 360-943-4000.
4. If the Commission approves each Tribe's amendment, it will be sent to the Tribal Chair for final consideration and signature.
5. If the Commission approves and the Tribal Chairs sign the amendments, they will be sent to the Governor for final consideration and signature.
6. After obtaining the signatures of the Tribal Chair and Governor, the Tribe will send it to the Secretary of the United States Department of Interior for consideration, signature, and publication in the Federal Register.

### **For questions contact the following staff at the Washington State Gambling Commission:**

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